

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 09985 231628Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
INRE-00 PM-05 SS-15 SP-02 SSO-00 SNM-05 /050 W
-----089645 231640Z /75
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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6712

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 09985

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP, SNAR, US, BE
SUBJECT: BELGIAN REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF DIPLOMATIC
IMMUNITY

1. BELGIAN NARCOTICS AGENTS ARRESTED FOUR BELGIAN
CITIZENS IN ANTWERP ON NARCOTICS RELATED CHARGES
MAY 22. DURING INTERROGATION OF ONE FEMALE SUSPECT,
SHE CITED THE NAME OF SGT. LAWRENCE O. BROWN, SN [Sensitive Information Removed Per NARA 09 DEC 2014],
WHO IS NCOIC OF EMBASSY APO UNIT. NO SPECIFIC ALLEGATIONS
WERE MADE AGAINST HIM.

2. GENDARMERIE REQUESTED FOREIGN MINISTRY TO SEEK
USG PERMISSION, ON MOST URGENT BASIS, TO (A) CARRY OUT
SEARCH OF SGT BROWN'S RESIDENCE (GENDARMERIE HAS A
SEARCH WARRENT ISSUED BY A JUGE D'INSTRUCTION) AND (B)
TO QUESTION HIM. FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS OFFICIALLY
TELEPHONED THIS REQUEST TO US AND INDICATED THAT A
FORMAL NOTE TO THE SAME EFFECT WOULD FOLLOW. WE
INFORMED FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT WE WOULD SEEK URGENT
GUIDANCE FROM WASHINGTON IN VIEW OF DIPLOMATIC
IMMUNITY ASPECTS OF CASE.

3. STATUS OF SGT. BROWN IS AS FOLLOWS: HE IS AN
EMBASSY EMPLOYEE (NON-DIPLOMATIC LIST) AND AS
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SUCH HAS A BELGIAN "PERMIS DE SEJOUR SPECIAL" ISSUED
BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. AS IN THE CASE OF ALL OTHER
AMERICAN EMPLOYEES OF THE EMBASSY, HE WOULD APPEAR
TO COME UNDER THE IMMUNITY GRANTED UNDER THE VIENNA
CONVENTION.

4. COMMENT: FIRST, WE BELIEVE IT IN THE OVERALL BEST

INTERESTS OF SGT. BROWN HIMSELF TO COOPERATE IN THE INVESTIGATION. SECONDLY, WE WOULD LIKE TO COOPERATE WITH BELGIAN OFFICIALS, IN A NARCOTICS INVESTIGATION IF AN APPROPRIATE WAIVER CAN BE GRANTED. THIRDLY, SHOULD THERE BE SUBSTANCE TO THIS SUSPICION, TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE IN INVESTIGATING THE CASE RAPIDLY.

5. PLEASE ADVISE BY IMMEDIATE CABLE. IF THERE WILL BE A DELAY, PLEASE PROVIDE STATUS REPORTS OF PROGRESS OF CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN TO ISSUE. DE TARR

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES, DRUG TRAFFIC, INVESTIGATIONS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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